

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4-10 and 13-26 are pending in the application. Claims 3, 11, 12 and 27 are canceled and claims 1, 13, 19 and 21 are amended with this amendment. Applicants note with appreciation the provisional allowance of claims 3, 13-15, 19 and 20. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested based on the following remarks.

I. OBJECTIONS TO CLAIMS 3, 13-15 AND 19-20

Claims 3, 13-15 and 19-20 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Claim 1 is currently amended to include the limitation of claim 3 rewritten in independent form. Claims 13 and 19 are rewritten in independent form including all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

II. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-12, 16-18 AND 21-27 UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-2, 4-10, 12, 16 and 27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,436,768 (Yang et al.) in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0182829 A1 (Chen). Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitation of claim 3 which was highlighted in the Office Action as containing allowable subject matter. Therefore claim 1 is nonobvious over the cited art. In addition, claim 12 has been canceled, thereby rendering the issue with respect to this claim moot. Therefore claims 1-2, 4-10 and 16 are patentable over the cited art. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

III. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 21-23 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 21-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen in view of Yang et al. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested for at least the following reasons.

Claim 21 has been amended to include the limitation of claim 3, which was indicated as containing allowable subject matter in the Office Action. Therefore it is believed that claim 21 is nonobvious over the cited art. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 21-23 is respectfully requested.


IV. CONCLUSION

For at least the above reasons, the claims currently under consideration are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner feel that a telephone interview would be helpful to facilitate favorable prosecution of the above-identified application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Should any fees be due as a result of the filing of this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the Deposit Account Number 50-1733, AMDP800US.

Respectfully submitted,
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper or item referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date June 2, 2005


Christine Gillroy